

When actions involving a common question of law or fact are pending before the court, it may order a joint hearing or trial of any or all the matters in issue in the actions; it may order all the actions consolidated; and it may make such orders concerning proceedings therein as may tend to avoid unnecessary costs or delay.

This is a case that requires consolidation. The questions of law and fact are nearly identical in these two cases. It would be an enormous waste of resources to empanel two juries and conduct two trials arising out of one and the same automobile accident. The Plaintiff's concerns that the issues of medical treatment and comparative negligence, which would be raised in a consolidated trial, would confuse the jurors are unfounded. The Motion (Doc. 10) is granted and Cases Numbered 5:09-CV-188 and 5:09-CV-189 are to be consolidated.

SO ORDERED, this 13th day of January, 2010.

s/ Hugh Lawson
HUGH LAWSON, JUDGE

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